
Class Title: Environmental Program Specialist
Organizations/Work Settings: Department of Environmental Quality

Class Code: 37216
Class Established: 08/22/88
Revised: 01/01/94
Pay Grade: 20

WORK DESCRIPTION:

Serves as the scientific technical expert for a significant environmental program which requires a high degree of independent decision making or as the single professional scientific specialist in a program staffed by one professional. May function as a high level individual contributor, in a lead capacity, or occasionally in a full supervisory capacity.

WORK CONDITIONS:

Facility inspections and related activities necessitate exposure to variable weather conditions and occasionally to hazardous materials/conditions.

SUPERVISION:

Works under limited supervision to general direction of supervisory/managerial staff. Work is reviewed upon completion.

KNOWLEDGES APPLIED:

Knowledge of chemistry, biochemistry, environmental engineering, and/or related environmental sciences.

Knowledge of instruments/equipment used in collecting environmental pollution data/samples.

Knowledge of instruments/equipment, including personal computers, used in analyzing/evaluating environmental pollution data/samples.

Knowledge of Arizona environmental control statutes.

Knowledge of Federal environmental control laws, regulations and programs.

Knowledge of Arizona environmental control regulations and programs.

WORK RESULTS/PRODUCTS:

Will run specialized scientific program, provision of highly scientific and technical input recommendation analysis/evaluation of environmental control data; decisions regarding compliance with State of Arizona environmental control laws, rules, and regulations in highly visible, sensitive, or technically complex programs.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Providing major policy/procedure recommendation in area of expertise. Determining degree of compliance with State laws, rules, and regulations; collecting, analyzing, and evaluating economic/scientific environmental control data/information and pollution samples.

AUTHORITY:

Independent decision making, within program rules/regulations and State law. Decisions effecting program policy and/or interpretation of laws, rules and regulations are cleared through management.

SKILLS APPLIED:

Skill in analyzing/evaluating economic/scientific environmental control data/information.

Skill in applying the scientific method in collecting/preserving field samples.

Skill in conducting site inspections and/or field investigations.

Skill in interacting with agency staff, the regulated public and other governmental environmental regulatory officials to obtain necessary information and/or resolve problems.

Skill in preparing narrative and/or statistical reports that include conclusions and/or recommendations.

WORK ACTIVITIES (Characteristic Tasks) - MAJOR and minor:

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SERVES AS TECHNICAL PROGRAM EXPERT IN AREA OF EXPERTISE.

EVALUATES COMPUTERIZED POLLUTION MODELS, SETS UP AND APPLIES THE MODELS, AND INTERPRETS THE RESULTS.

APPEARS AS EXPERT WITNESS IN COURTS.

DEVELOPS POLLUTION DISPERSION STUDIES AND FORECASTING SYSTEMS, DETERMINING METHODOLOGY AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES IN HIGHLY VISIBLE, SENSITIVE, OR TECHNICALLY COMPLEX PROGRAM AREA.

MONITORS COMPLIANCE TESTING OF POLLUTION SOURCES AND SPECIFIES ACCEPTABLE TEST METHODS.

INSPECTS/INVESTIGATES REGULATED FACILITIES/OPERATIONS FOR COMPLIANCE.

Maintains records and prepares technical reports.

Provides technical assistance to State and local government agencies and private industry.

Serves as project leader/lead worker on highly visible, sensitive, or technically complex projects/studies.

Performs related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Two years as an Environmental Health Specialist II; OR two years of equivalent environmental protection/control experience at a professional level involving responsibility for analysis of environmental data, problem identification/resolution, and/or recommendation of course of action. Thirty semester hours of graduate level coursework in chemistry, biology, microbiology, hydrology, geology, environmental engineering, or closely related environmental science may substitute for one year only of the professional level experience.

Special Selection Factors:

None.